OCT 0 4 2004

PTO/SB/30 (08-00).* Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651=0031						
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Inder the Penerwork Reduction Affin (1905) believes are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.						
70	(c) D-0		of information unless it dis	o9/348,5		
SEP 3 0 200	' [u]	Fil	ing Date	July 7, 1	999	
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCI			rst Named Inventor	MASAHI	IDE HIRASAWA	
TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application		Gi	oup Art Unit	2615		
		Ex	raminer Name	Brian C.	Genco	
See '	filed on or after June 8, 1995. The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	At	torney Docket Number	03500.01	13649 (35.C13649)	
This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.						
Submission i	required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114					
a. Pre	a. Previously submitted					
i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on						
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on						
	closed		•			
i. 🗀	Amendment/Reply					
ii.	Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)					
iii. <u>LX.</u> iv. LX.	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)					
iv. LXJ Other Preliminary Amendment 2. Miscellaneous						
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)						
	Other					
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •						
	a. LXJ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205					
i. X	RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)	\	IA IA IBAAL BRIGH	0000044	+ 00340500	
ii. LX iii. C	Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and Other	1.17)	10/01/2004 CCHAU1	0000014	1 09348500	
	heck in the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed.		01 FC:1801 770.00 QP			
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)						
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED						
			No. (Attorney/Agent)	3:	7,838	
Signature Damel Huech		Date	September 30, 2004			

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Name (Print/Type)

Signature Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.